Page 3, lines 19-20, change "in the above identified patent applications" to -- with reference to Figures 1 to 22B inclusive, --;

line 25, delete "in the";

line 26, delete "identified patent applications".

Page 4, line 26, change "2" to -- 24 --;

line 27, change "1" to -- 23 --;

line 31, change "thSTM" to -- the STM --.

## **IN THE CLAIMS**:

Cancel claims 1 and 2.

Please add claim 8 as follows:

plurality of mutually parallel data switching planes and a control plane parallel thereto, each data switching plane having an equal number of input ports and output ports, and a central switching unit to switch each input port to an output port, the data being switched in octets; and rotator means for connecting each input port cyclically to a multiplex timeslot of the central switching unit.